

(c) whether it is not a fact that Chitgappa sub-station has got its own sub-station to cater the needs of surrounding villages and its own ministerial staff at Chitgappa.

(d) if so, the need to shift that Mannakheli office to Chitagappa;

(e) whether the Government have received any representation opposing the shifting of the office;

(f) whether they have abandoned the scheme to shift office from Mannakheli to Chitgappa?

SRI H. C. SRIKANTAIAH (Minister of State for Power).—

(a) No. Only the Revenue accounting pertaining to Mannakheli is being shifted to Chitgappa.

(b) No. The section office at Mannakheli will continue to attend to cash collections, fuse off calls, servicing of new installations, attending to breakdowns etc.

(c) The revenue Accounting under transfer would be an addition.

(d) The Revenue Accounting is being transferred from Mannakheli to Chitgappa in accordance with the norms laid down by the Work Load Committee of Karnataka Electricity Board.

(e) Yes. But there is no proposal to shift the Section Office from Mannakheli to Chitgappa.

(f) Does not arise in view of reply to clause (e).

Calling Attention to a matter of urgent Public Importance

re death of four persons at Kothigudda village by Consuming toddy

ಶ್ರೀ ಎ. ಶರಣಪ್ಪ (ದೇವದುರ್ಗ).—ದೇವದುರ್ಗ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಷಮಿಶ್ರಿತ ಹೆಂಡವನ್ನು ಕುಡಿದು ನಾಲ್ಕು ಜನರು ಸತ್ತಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ನಾನು ಅಬ್ಕಾರಿ ಸಚಿವರ ಗಮನವನ್ನು ಸೆಳೆಯುತ್ತೇನೆ.

SRI S. M. YAHYA (Minister of Excise & Labour).—Sir I wish to make the following Statement.—

It is reported that on 27-2-1976, the following persons consumed toddy at Kothigudda village ;

- (1) Bellaiah S/o Hanumaiah, Bender of Kothigudda village
- (2) Rangaiah S/o Bheemaiah —do—
- (3) Pomaanna S/o Lokappa Lambala r/o Kelagina Irabgere
- (4) Seethaiah S/o Chatraya of Sasvigera
- (5) Sakraiah S/o Langya Lambada of Sasvigera
- (6) Ramanna S/o Lambada of Sasvigera
- (7) Wachiah S/o Ganrya Lambada of Kelagina Irabgere.

Out of these 7 persons two persons viz., Bellaiah & Bangaiah died after consuming the toddy. Sri pomanna, Sri Seethiah and three others proceeded from Kothigudda towards their village. After covering a distance of about 2 meters from Kothigudda, while crossing nala called Hurivina halla in the limits of Kelagina Irabgera, they felt giddiness and fell down. Of them, Pomanna & Seethiah died at the same place. The remaining three persons are reported to be out of danger. Sri Sakraiah who was admitted to the Hospital at Devadurga, has been discharged and other two persons i. e. Rama & Wachiya are living in their village. The dead bodies were subjected to post Mortem Examination and the P. M. E. report is awaited.

On enquiry, it is learnt that there is no licenced arrack shop or toddy shop in Kothigudda village. There are two nearby villages, one is Managal and another is Hemaar where there are licenced toddy shops. It was told by the people of the above villages that persons from Kothigudda village were also used to go to the above shops for taking drinks. On enquiry with the persons who took drinks from the above shop, it is learnt that the toddy supplied on 27-2-1976 from the above shop, was good, and nothing has happened to them.

For the reasons stated above, the deaths of four persons which have occurred at Kothigudda village, cannot be by consuming toddy as the toddy is being supplied to all the shops of Devadurga Taluk from toddy depot of Raichur. If toddy was poisonous on that day, many thousands of people should have died. But, there are no other deaths on that date of toddy panikars. Hence, the deaths which have occurred are not due to the mere consumption of toddy; it is suspected that some other gradient of poison might have been mixed into the toddy by some other person in order to kill these persons due to some personal enmity. However further investigation by Police is under way.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎ ಶರಣಪ್ಪ. — ರಾಯಚೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಂಡಕ್ಕೆ ಸ್ವಾಕ್ರಿಸ್ ಮತ್ತು ಕ್ಲೋರೋಫಾರಂ ಮುಂತಾದ ಕೆಮಿಕಲ್ಸ್ ಅನ್ನು ಉಪಯೋಗ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಇದನ್ನು ಒಂದು ದಿವಸ ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಮರಂ ದಿವಸ ಕುಡಿದರೆ, ಇದು ವಿಷಪೂರಿತವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಇಂಥಾದ್ದನ್ನು ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಕುಡಿದು ನಾಲ್ಕು ಜನ ಸತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆಂದು ತಿಳಿದು ಬಂದಿದೆ. ಆದಕಾರಣ ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರು ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಯೋಗ್ಯ ಕ್ರಮ ತೆಗೆದು ಕೊಂಡು ಇನ್ನು ಮುಂದೆ ಇಂಥ ಘಟನೆಗಳು ಆಗಲಾರದಂತೆ ನೋಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಸ್. ಎಂ. ಯಾಹ್ಯಾ. — ಇದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಇನ್‌ವೆಸ್ಟಿಗೇಷನ್ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಕೆಮಿಕಲ್ ರಿಪೋರ್ಟ್ ಸಹ ಇನ್ನೂ ಬಂದಿಲ್ಲ. ಬಂದಮೇಲೆ ಏನಾದರೂ ತಪ್ಪುಗಳು ಇದ್ದರೆ ಖಂಡಿತ ವಾಗಿಯೂ ಇದನ್ನು ನೋಡುತ್ತೇವೆ. ಟಾಡಿ ಪಾಪ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಕುಡಿದ ಬೇರೆಯವರು ಯಾರೂ ಸತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಕೆಮಿಕಲ್ ರಿಪೋರ್ಟ್ ಬಂದಮೇಲೆ ಯಾರು ತಪ್ಪಿತಸ್ಥರು ಇದ್ದಾರೆ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆ ಮಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ನಾವು ತಯಾರಿದ್ದೇವೆ.